

PATENT

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number

EK983560416US

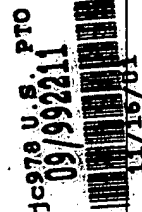
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office - to - Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

November 16, 2001 Date of Deposit

Jim S. Pringle
Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Jim S. Pringle
Name of Person Signing

November 16, 2001
Date of Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Peter M. Bonutti and James S. Hawkins
Filing Date : herewith
For : EXPANDABLE CANNULA
Attorney Docket No. : BON-2950-2

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

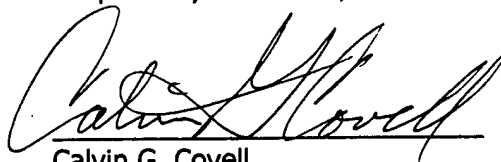
This information disclosure statement is being filed to fulfill the duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

Below is a list of information of which persons substantively involved in the preparation of the application identified above, are aware and believe that a reasonable Examiner may consider important to deciding whether to allow the application. This statement is not a representation that no other relevant information exists, and is not an admission that any of the items is material as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Copies of the listed patents and publications are enclosed. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a) (2) (iii), no copies of listed U.S. Patent Applications are enclosed. A PTO Form 1449 is attached.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

U.S. Patent No. 319,296	U.S. Patent No. 4,716,901
U.S. Patent No. 668,879	U.S. Patent No. 4,746,812
U.S. Patent No. 702,789	U.S. Patent No. 4,899,729
U.S. Patent No. 2,830,587	U.S. Patent No. 4,921,479
U.S. Patent No. 3,788,318	U.S. Patent No. 4,966,583
U.S. Patent No. 3,789,852	U.S. Patent No. 4,998,539
U.S. Patent No. 3,811,449	U.S. Patent No. 5,037,404
U.S. Patent No. 3,833,003	U.S. Patent No. 5,041,093
U.S. Patent No. 3,968,800	U.S. Patent No. 5,069,674
U.S. Patent No. 4,183,102	U.S. Patent No. 5,183,464
U.S. Patent No. 4,320,762	U.S. Patent No. 5,197,971
U.S. Patent No. 4,461,281	U.S. Patent No. 5,226,899
U.S. Patent No. 4,504,268	U.S. Patent No. 5,234,425
U.S. Patent No. 4,589,868	U.S. Patent No. 5,318,588
U.S. Patent No. 4,630,609	U.S. Patent No. 5,328,480
U.S. Patent No. 4,685,458	U.S. Patent No. 5,496,292
U.S. Patent No. 4,706,670	

Respectfully submitted,



Calvin G. Covell
Reg. No.: 24,042

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL
TUMMINO & SZABO, L.L.P.
526 Superior Avenue, Suite 1111
Cleveland, OH 44114-1400
(216) 621-2234